

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /069 W

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R 051300Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3752

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR, MPOL, TU, US

SUBJECT: BOURGUIBA'S BIRTHDAY: MZDIA TREATMENT OF
EXPRESSIONS OF GOODWILL BY U.S. AND OTHER
FRIENDLY COUNTRIES

1. TUNISIAN MEDIA HAS GIVEN PROMINENT COVERAGE TO EXPRESSIONS
OF GOODWILL FOR TUNISIA MADE BY THE U.S. AND OTHER FRIENDLY
COUNTRIES DURING THE PAST WEEK. THESE INCLUDE VARIOUS
OFFICIAL MESSAGES AND THE VISITS OF MEN-OF-WAR FROM THE
U.S., FRANCE, EGYPT, AND GREECE OVER PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA'S
BIRTHDAY FESTIVITIES, VICE ADMIRAL TURNER'S MEETING WITH
PRIME MINISTER AND BOURGUIBA, AND VISIT OF SQUADRON OF
FRENCH MIRAGE-5 FIGHTERS. PRESIDENT FORD'S BIRTHDAY
GREETINGS WERE PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED IN DAILY PRESS ON
AUGUST 4 WHILE LARGE PHOTOGRAPH OF PRIME MINISTER AND
ADMIRAL TURNER WAS PUBLISHED IN SEPARATE ARTICLES
NEARBY. A THIRD STORY REPORTED CALLS BY ADMIRAL TURNER
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AND COMMANDERS OF USS MONTGOMERY AND USS BARNEY ON

BOURGUIBA, AND OF BOURGUIBA'S DECORATION OF THREE OFFICERS
FOR SERVICES RENDERED TO TUNISIA.

2. SIMILAR MEDIA TREATMENT (PHASED OUT OVER SEVERAL DAYS)
WAS GIVEN TO MESSAGES FROM PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING
OF FRANCE AND TO VISITS OF FRENCH, EGYPTIAN AND GREEK
NAVAL UNITS. THE PRESENCE IN TUNISIA OF A FRENCH MIRAGE
FIGHTER SQUADRON WAS NOTED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS (LOW LEVEL
FLYOVERS WERE EXECUTED IN BOTH MONASTIR AND TUNIS).

3. MORNING PRESS OF AUGUST 5 ALSO REPORTED IN PROMINENT
DISPLAY VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER'S MESSAGE TO THE
PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, DR. SADOK MOKADDEM
(IN RESPONSE TO LATTER'S FOURTH OF JULY MESSAGE TO
VICE PRESIDENT), AND TO THE HUMPHREY-PERCY RESOLUTION
PASSED BY THE SENATE ON AUGUST 3. THE TEXT OF THIS
RESOLUTION WAS PRINTED VERBATIM, AS WERE SENATOR PERCY'S
REMARKS. BOTH ITEMS WERE ALSO EXTENSIVELY REPORTED ON
LOCAL RADIO AND TV.

4. IN BRIEF, VARIOUS EFFORTS BY U.S. AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS
TO DEMONSTRATE GOOD RELATIONS WITH GOT HAVE NOT GONE
UNNOTICED. GOT HAS IN FACT GIVEN THEM WIDEST POSSIBLE PUBLICITY, LE-
AVING EDITORIALIZING, HOWEVER, TO READERS'
IMAGINATIONS.
KING

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Message Attributes

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